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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

JOHNSON, GREGORY L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3691

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

12/28/2006

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/757,771	Applicant(s) CHEHADE ET AL.	
	Examiner GREGORY JOHNSON	Art Unit 3691	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 26-47, 51 and 52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 26-47, 51 and 52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 26-47 and 51-52 are presented for examination.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 18, 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 26-47 and 51-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mikurak, US Pat. No. 7,130,807 B1.

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As to claim 26, Mikurak discloses a computer program product comprising:
a computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein (col. 25, lines 32-37 and col. 307, lines 28-31),
said computer readable program code configured to:
obtain a first business process data from at least one first trading participant (col.3, lines 3-5 and col. 307, lines 37-40), said first business process data comprising a set of transaction messages having a first data format (col. 10, lines 1-25) in accordance with a first standard protocol for conducting business transactions (col. 14, lines 22-28);
process said first business process data at a process management platform accessible via an interconnection fabric (col. 3, lines 1-5 and col.9, lines 51-57), wherein said process management platform is configured to manage the flow of said transaction messages and monitor said transaction messages (col. 15, lines 54-59), wherein said process management platform is configured to automatically determine a second one of a plurality of trading participants to satisfy, said first business process data (col. 24, lines 33-50); generate a second business process data from said first business process data using a second data format in accordance with a second standard protocol for conducting said business transactions with said second one of said plurality of trading participants (col. 24, lines 51-58); and transmit said second business process data from said process management platform to said second one of said plurality, of trading participants (col. 24, lines 51-58).

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As to claim 27, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said computer readable program code configured to obtain said business process data executes at a process gateway (i.e. computerized framework manager; Abstract, col. 3, lines 1-19 and col. 15, lines 45-60).

As to claim 28, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said process gateway interfaces with at least one legacy system (col. 9, lines 51-57) at said at least one first trading participant and said second one of said plurality, of trading participants (col. 15, lines 45-53).

As to claim 29, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said process management platform broadcasts said first business process data to [[a]] said plurality of trading participants (col. 24, lines 51-58).

As to claim 30, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 further comprising:
computer readable program code configured to modify said first business process data to conform said first business process data to a uniform format (col. 11, lines 28-36 and col. 13, lines 26-35).

As to claim 31, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said processing further comprises:

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archiving said first business process data in a storage medium (col. 9, lines 35-43 and col. 25, lines 32-37).

As to claim 32, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 31 further comprising:
computer readable program code configured to provide said archived first business process data to an entity for non-repudiation purposes (col. 23, lines 56-66, and col. 25, lines 36-37).

As to claim 33, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises at least one partner interface process (col.23, lines 37-67 and col. 24, lines 1-18).

As to claim 34, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises technical information (col.23, lines 37-67 and col. 24, lines 1-18).

As to claim 35, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises item acquisition data (col.23, lines 37-67 and col. 24, lines 1-18).

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As to claim 36, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said first business process data comprises service acquisition data (col.23, lines 37-67 and col. 24, lines 1-18).

As to claim 37, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 26 wherein said at least one trading participant comprises an entity utilizing said first business process data (col.23, lines 37-67 and col. 24, lines 1-18).

As to claim 38-41, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 37 wherein said entity comprises a purchaser (col. 15, lines 45-53), wherein said entity comprises a supplier (col. 15, lines 45-53), wherein said entity comprises a distributor (col. 15, lines 45-53), wherein said entity comprises a manufacturer (col. 15, lines 45-53).

As to claim 42, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 37 wherein said process management platform comprises a plurality of distributed systems (col. 15, lines 45-49 and Fig. 2).

As to claim 43, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 37 wherein said process management platform comprises a business process interface associated with said at least one trading participant and said at least one second interface (col. 24, lines 55-64).

As to claim 44, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 37 further comprising:

computer readable program code configured to provide said at least one first trading participant and at least one second trading participant access to a business process interface (col. 307, lines 28-53).

As to claim 45, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 44 wherein said business process interface is provided via a web browser (col. 14, lines 22-28).

As to claim 46, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 44 wherein said business process interface facilitates the transmission of data comprising at least a portion of said business process data (col. 15, lines 45-59).

As to claim 47, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 44 wherein said business process interface facilitates the formatting of data comprising at least a portion of said business process data (col. 13, lines 26-35).

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As to claim 51, Mikurak discloses a computer program product (Abstract and col. 15, lines 45-53) comprising:
a computer readable medium having computer readable program code (col. 25, lines 32-37 and col. 307, lines 28-31), for managing a plurality of business processes (col. 3, lines 1-3 and col. 15, lines 45-60), said computer readable program code configured to:
obtain a plurality of business processes from a plurality of first entities (col. 15, lines 45-49) wherein said plurality of business processes comprises a sequence of messages linked by a predefined workflow and exchanged over a predefined period of time (col. 11, lines 28-36, col. 12, lines 23-28, col. 13, lines 26-35 and col. 14, lines 19-26);
manage said plurality of business processes at a process management platform (col. 15, lines 54-59); forwarding said plurality of business processes from said process management platform to at least one of a plurality of second entities automatically determined to be configured to fulfill said plurality of business processes (col. 24, lines 33-50).

As to claim 52, Mikurak discloses the computer program product of claim 51 wherein said computer readable code configured to manage said plurality of business processes at said process management platform further comprises computer readable program code configured to:
format each of said plurality of business processes to conform to a predefined format when said plurality of business processes does not conform to said predefined format (col. 13, lines 26-35);

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archive said plurality of business process (col. 25, lines 36-37).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 26-47 and 51-52 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

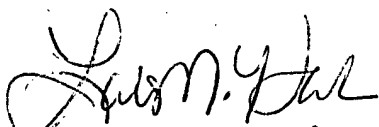
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREGORY JOHNSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-2025. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ALEXANDER KALINOWSKI can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


LALITA M. HAMMON
Primary Examiner, 3691

GREGORY JOHNSON
Examiner
Art Unit 3691

